

ous shrub in full fruit at the northern end of the marsh, October 4, 1922.

Boltonia asteroides (L.) L'Hér. A cluster of plants on the northern edge of the marsh, September 22, 1923.

Aster novae-angliae L. Several plants in the northern portion, October 4, 1922; abundant there, September 22, 1923.

Aster novae-angliae L., var. *roseus* (Desf.) DC. Several plants in the northern portion, October 4, 1922; abundant there, September 22, 1923.

Aster multiflorus Ait. One plant in the center of the marsh, September 22, 1923. Some large plants at the north end, near the margin, October 23, 1924.

Aster puniceus L. A single specimen in the center of the marsh, September 22, 1923.

Arctium minus Bernh. Common in the northwestern portion of the marsh, October 16, 1923.

Total number of species and varieties observed on the marsh since 1915 and not observed before.....	39
Plants affecting saline habitats.....	1
Upland plants which have appeared since 1915.....	38

As the plants of saline habitats have been reduced almost to zero, it is interesting to note that it has taken a period of 17 years to bring about this change.

The plants enumerated above are in my herbarium. In the verification of some forms I have been assisted by Prof. M. L. Fernald and Mr. C. A. Weatherby, while in the collection of specimens I have been materially aided by Miss L. M. Brown.

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS.

ZINNIA VS. CRASSINA.

S. F. BLAKE.

THE familiar garden plants popularly known as zinnia had borne the same botanical name unchallenged for a century and a quarter when, in 1891, Otto Kuntze¹ displaced *Zinnia* L. (1759) by *Crassina* Scopin (1758) on the ground of priority. The change was adopted by Porter and Britton (1894) and other writers in America, and for thirty years

¹ Rev. Gen. Pl. 1: 331. 1891.

the name *Crassina* has been accepted by a considerable proportion of American botanists as the correct designation of the genus. Apparently not one of the botanists who have used this name, from Kuntze on, has ever examined the work in which it appeared. Scepin's doctoral thesis,¹ published at Leyden, appears to be now very rare. It is not at the Gray Herbarium, the New York Botanical Garden, the Missouri Botanical Garden, or the John Crerar Library, nor is it mentioned in the catalogs of the Arnold Arboretum, the C. G. Lloyd Library, the British Museum of Natural History, or the Royal Gardens at Kew. Kuntze himself, although he had access to good botanical libraries and did much original bibliographic work, took up the name only on the strength of the account of *Zinnia* and its synonyms given in Boehmer's edition of Ludwig's "Definitiones Generum Plantarum" (p. 190, 1760). The copy examined in the preparation of this note is in the Surgeon-General's Library at Washington.

To the extreme rarity of Scepin's paper and the consequent inability of botanists to consult it, is due not only the persistence of the name *Crassina* in American botanical literature, but also a curious misconception regarding its origin. In both editions of Britton & Brown's "Illustrated Flora" the genus is said to be named in honor of "Paul Crassus, an Italian botanist of the sixteenth century." This statement is evidently taken from Wittstein's "Etymologisch-botanisches Handwörterbuch," p. 235 (1856), which contains the following paragraph: "Crassina Scop. (Compositae). Nach Paul Crassus; schrieb: De Lolio, Bologna 1591." The source of Wittstein's explanation of the name is not evident,² but is surely not Scepin's paper, for in that (p. 22) the genus is said to be named in memory of Stephan Crascheninnikow, Professor of Botany at St. Petersburg, and companion of Gmelin and Steller in their Siberian and Kamchatkan travels. The extremely abbreviated generic name used by Scepin, which has so effectually concealed the identity of the botanist he sought to honor, was adopted, he says, "ne in leges a sedulo promotore Botanices Linnaeo statutas peccarem."

¹ Scepin, Constantinus. Schediasma chemico-medicum inaugurale de acido vegetabili quod cum annotationibus botanicis . . . publico et amico examini sistit Constantinus Scepin e Wiatka Russus. Lugduni Batavorum, apud Gerardum Potuliet, 1758. Title page, pp. [1]–[6] (introduction), 1–44.—The name *Crassina* occurs on p. 22, where its derivation is explained, and on p. 42, where the description begins, continuing to p. 44.

² Not only Wittstein, but also De Candolle (Prodrromus), Bentham & Hooker, and Durand (Index) wrongly attribute the name to Scopoli, evidently by a confusion between the abbreviations "Scep." and "Scop."

Scepin's name *Crassina* is effectively published under the provisions of the Vienna Rules, but not under those of the Rochester Code. Although the genus is described, no binomial is cited, nor can one be associated until 1759 with either of the two polynomial synonyms given. These are *Rudbeckia foliis oppositis* &c. of Zinn, Cat. Hort. Gotting. 409 (1757), and *Bidens, calyce oblongo*, &c. of Miller, Fig. Pl. 1: 43. pl. 64 (1756). Neither of these authors cites any previously published synonym associable with a binomial, and both references were first connected with a binomial name in 1759, when they were cited by Linnaeus (Syst. ed. 10, p. 1221) under *Zinnia peruviana*. The name *Crassina* must consequently be dropped by those who follow the Rochester Code. It would be eligible under the Vienna Rules, but its use is fortunately obviated by the fact that *Zinnia* was made a *nomen conservandum* in 1905.

At the time he adopted the name *Crassina*, Kuntze suggested that *Lepia* Hill might also be an earlier name than *Zinnia*. The first edition of Hill's Exotic Botany, where¹ the name (misquoted *Lejica* by Linnaeus in the second edition of the Species Plantarum, p. 1269. 1763) first appeared, is not in Washington. Mr. Alfred Rehder has examined the copy at the Arnold Arboretum and informs me that *Lepia* appears only as a generic name without reference to any previously published name, and is consequently only a hyponym under the Rochester Code. The preface of Hill's work is dated January 18, 1759, so that it probably appeared earlier than the 10th edition of the Systema Naturae (May-June 1759), in which *Zinnia* was published. Hill used² the name *Lepia* again in 1768, with the binomials *Lepia pauciflora* and *L. multiflora*. In the second edition of the Exotic Botany (p. 29, pl. 29, 1772) he adopted the name *Zinnia pauciflora*, used by Linnaeus in the second edition of the Species Plantarum, and added a final paragraph to his account of the plant: "Since the publication of the first edition of this work, Linnaeus saw the Plant and nam'd it Zinnia. Perhaps my name was fitter, but uniformity is so much better than strict propriety in this article, that I willingly subscribe to the Linnaean name." The followers of both the Vienna Rules and the Rochester Code can now do the same.

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¹ "Exot. Bot. ed. 1. 29. pl. 29. 1759."

² Hort. Kew. 18. 1768.